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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/031,579	01/17/2002	Jyrki Kaitila	297-010745-US(PAR)	6350
2512	7590	04/07/2004	EXAMINER	
PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			BUDD, MARK OSBORNE	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2834		

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/031,579	KAITILA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark Budd	2834	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 11-16, 22, 24, 27 and 31-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Hirama.

Note figs. 1(b) and 13-21 which show the structure of an electrode with a raised rim (Frame-like) area. The recitation in clause 3 "a cut-off frequency --- in the frame-like zone is different from the cut-off frequency --- of the center area ---" is inherent for any mode of operation due to the different mass loading. This is how energy trapping is achieved. The last clause "a width of the fram-like zone ---. Strongest resonance mode is substantially uniform ---" is a statement of desired function or result with no specific structure cited to achieve the desired result. As such, this recitation has not been given patentable weight. Applicant has argued that Hirama does not mention operation in the thickness extension mode. However, a careful reading of e.g. applicants claim 1 reveals that if the claimed device operates in the TE mode the cut-off frequencies will have a particular (inherent) relationship, the device is not limited to operation in the TE mode, or even the "strongest" mode. Thus, structurally, Hirama anticipates the claim limitations.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 8-10, 17-21, 23, 25, 26 and 28-32 rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hirama.

Art Unit: 2852

Hirama teaches the resonator structure except the electrodes and frame-like area are shown as one integral (monolithic) element. However, it has long been held that making parts integral or separable is within the skill expected of the routineer. Thus to construct the electrode/frame of separate layers and/or materials would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The examiner believes that if the claims were limited to a device actually operating in the TE mode that the claims could be allowable.

Budd/ds

03/25/04


MARK U. BUDD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2852